

STANFORD UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER

DEPARTMENT OF GENETICS

BW

July 29, 1977

Mr. Robert Mikulak
Arms Control and Disarmament Agency
State Department
2201 C, NW
Washington, D.C. 20451

Dear Mr. Mikulak:

I have been rather tardy about following up our conversations of early May concerning possible restatements of the U.S. definition of biological agents for the purposes of the BW treaty.

In the interval, as you know, there has been considerable motion with respect to regulatory legislation in this field, but the outcome is still uncertain. In that light, I suspect that it would be only adding to the confusion to attempt to make further statements about the BW connections of recombinant DNA at this time. I would rather suggest that we would wait until the dust settles in the arena of the legislative controversy. When that legislation has been enacted, I will write you further to suggest clarifying wording of definitions that would be consistent with the law as it is ultimately written.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg
Professor of Genetics

cc: Dr. Matthew Meselson

JL:ek-f